

539 AD

The last games were held
at the Circus Maximus
by ROTILA

Reign of Grand Bellavies
Consecrated Roman for Emperor
Justusian and led the city
into the 3rd and most eminent
stage of its history. It reigned
the posthumous of Byzantium in Europe
for 200 years

539

The Italian Ostrogothic Kingdom

Franks invade Upper Italy

Spring 539

When the siege of Auximum began, it
lasted for 7 months the main
imperial army of 11,000 soldiers
under the command of Belisarius.
By that time Vitigis had won his
last costly victory

Mar. 539

With the help of the Burgundians
the Sottes retook Milan. But the
Burgundians enslaved as many
Milanese women as they needed.

Early 539

The battles that spread across all of central Italy and into the valley of the Po had caused a dispersion of the forces on both sides. In early 539, large, even huge imperial armies were fighting around Osimo near Ancona, around Fossile near Florence and around Milan.

Spring of 539

the emperor ordered Narses to return
to Constantinople. The eunuch obeyed
but his 20,000 Hunsin troops deserted
the Roman Army

no sooner had Belassius regained
undisputed command over the imperial
army, was resumed.

By forcing the Goths to defend
strategically important sites, the
imperial forces could deprive
the Goths of their mobility. The
result would be the eventual siege
and capture of Ravenna.

As early as summer of 539 URAIAS

expected a reinforced imperial army in Liguria
Established (the imperial forces) established a base
at the fortress of Besuma and thwarted all
attempts by VARAS to leave the Po Valley

Believe the (other) field - F, E SOLB

The main theater was the Adriatic Coast
there with 11,000 Belsoisies assaulted the
fortress of AUSONIUM, Vitiges in Ravenna approached
the Lombards, but they refused help

King THEODEBERT led his Franks in a sudden raid into northern Italy. like a tornado they first fell upon the Goths and then upon the imperial army. Before crossing the Po the Franks sacrificed Goths women and children to the river god. But when food shortages and epidemics afflicted the Franks, their advance came to a stand still. THEODEBERT soon withdrew from a large section of Italy.

Lat 539

After the Franks withdrew, the imperial forces & the Goths resumed hostilities while the situation reached stalemate in besieging FIESOLE and AVIGNONE fell. In Lat 539 Belisarius led the combined Roman Army to Ravenna. This began the siege of the royal city. The Gothic garrison in the COTTIAN Alps (north of Genoa) surrendered. The rear of the imperial forces was now secure. Many Goths

went home and submitted to the Emperor
VRATAS "undefeated in battle" had no choice but
to shut himself up in Pava.

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the Circus Maximus by TOTILA.
the delapidation of the building
had already set in.

In the Middle Ages, it
was quarried for building
material

After 3 yrs of campaigning, WITIGES was
shut up in Rovenna. He would
have accepted the generous terms offered
by Justinian, but the Goths would have
none of it. They actually offered the crown
to Belisarius, who, without accepting it,
beguiled them into opening the gate
to him; whereupon he took possession
in the name of Justinian. When

Revenna fell, it seemed an easy matter
to complete the Conquest; and Belisarius
was recalled to take up command
against the Persians, with whom
a just war had broken out.

539

*Belisarius besieget
Wittijo in Rovetna*

MILAN overruled by the
Goths.